

Filed for intro on 01/29/2001

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 22

By Jackson

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Officer Alan Matthew Ragsdale of the Hohenwald Police Department.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the tragic death of Officer Alan Matthew Ragsdale; and

WHEREAS, Officer Ragsdale was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities in addition to his career in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, it was in service to his community that this valiant officer met such a premature and untimely end; he made the ultimate sacrifice of his life in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, although a native of Columbia in Maury County, Officer Ragsdale was a long-time resident of Lewis County and the Hohenwald community; and

WHEREAS, Alan Ragsdale served with acumen and alacrity as a police officer with the Hohenwald Police Department, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and the people he protected for the exceptional quality of his work and his dedication to duty; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hohenwald's Chief of Police, Sam Livingston, described Officer Ragsdale as "a very fine police officer and a good friend"; it is quite noteworthy that this

outstanding officer “received zero complaints during his career and that is almost unheard of”;  
and

WHEREAS, Officer Ragsdale served as Secretary for the Fraternal Order of Police, as well as being a member of the Masonic Lodge; and

WHEREAS, he also found time to devote his energy and affection to the children of his community by coaching Little League baseball and serving as a Boy Scout Troop Leader; and

WHEREAS, he was an active and devout member of the First Baptist Church, which he served faithfully as a leader of the youth group; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Shelly, and was the proud parent of two sons, David Clayton and Aren Ragsdale, and a daughter, Carrie Hodge; and

WHEREAS, Officer Ragsdale is also survived by his mother, Gladys Wright Hinson; father, Elton Ragsdale; three siblings, Elton Ragsdale, Jeff Ragsdale, and Lisa Adams; step-father, Charles Ray Hinson; and grandmother, Uvella Maxwell; and

WHEREAS, Alan Ragsdale leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and courage and dedication as a police officer; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Officer Alan Matthew Ragsdale, who lost his life while protecting his fellow citizens from harm, as we reflect fondly upon his life of purpose and commitment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Alan Ragsdale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.